

Attention 4-H Leaders and Members: Decorate a Piggy Bank

A Piggy Bank Contest for three age categories (5 - 8, 9 - 13, 14 - 18) is being sponsored by the First Interstate Bank System Foundation during the Montana Financial Education Coalition Conference on April 10 - 11, 2007. Cash prizes will be awarded in each of the three age categories : 1st place, \$100; second place, \$75; and third place, \$50. All entries will be judged by popular votes of the MFEC Conference attendees. Contestants will have the option of donating their banks to the Silent Auction that will be held during the conference with proceeds going to the Ronald McDonald House in Billings. Contestants can deliver their banks to any First Interstate Bank in Montana by March 16th. If you don't have First Interstate Bank, other local banks and credit unions are being asked to arrange for delivery of entries by their local youth. This is a chance for your 4-H youth to show their creativity. Questions, contact Kelly Bruggeman or Lisa Knutson at First Interstate Foundation 406-255-5024.

Tell Us Your 4-H Story

The NAE-4HA Public Relations & Information Committee is compiling a book of 4-H Stories and wants you to share your 4-H Story! **Submission Guidelines for your 4-H Story:**

1. Think about a time when you were "touched" or "moved" by an interaction between a 4-H member and a volunteer or staff member. How about a funny story that happened at 4-H camp, the county fair, a 4-H meeting or on a 4-H trip.
2. Tell your story in a way that will make the reader feel an emotion; happiness, sadness, joy, or inspiration.
3. The story should start with action, include a problem, issue or situation. Make sure to introduce your characters. The story should end in a result, lesson learned, positive change or payoff.
4. Most importantly—let it come from your heart! Your story is important! We are hoping to collect stories from all 50 states!

5. For additional submission ideas, visit the "Chicken Soup for the Soul®" web site at www.chickensoup.com

Submission Criteria: Maximum of three double spaced pages, 12 point Times New Roman font, one inch margins all around, in a Word document. Include your contact information including name, phone, email address and setting of the story (approximate year). Selected stories may be edited for length and content. Stories not selected will be preserved for possible future use or published in an on-line format. Anonymous contributions will not be considered. Submit your story for consideration to dtabler@umd.edu by **June 1, 2007**.

Ag Communications Scholarship

Agricultural communicators serve to provide producers with the information they need to be successful on the farm or ranch. Whether listening to the radio while feeding, flipping through the paper at the end of a long day in the tractor, or watching the ag report on television, producers depend on ag communicators to bring up-to-date, accurate industry news to the end of every dirt road. Recognizing the importance of keeping youth in agriculture and that the best ag communicators have rural roots and understand the industry on a personal level, Stockman Bank, Agri-News, Western Livestock Reporter, and Northern Ag Network are again teaming up to offer scholarships to youths planning to pursue an education in ag communications. The first place applicant will be awarded \$2,500; second place applicant, \$1,500; and third place applicant, \$500. The application deadline is April 15, 2007. Find all criteria and an application online at www.cattleplus.com

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

May 1st Drop/Adds Due: May 1st is the last day to drop or add projects. 4-Hers must be enrolled in a project to participate at the Summer Fair. If you have been working in a project area, make sure you are enrolled in that project. If not, you will need to add it to your enrollment. Contact our office at 388-3213 to make sure.

Fair deadlines: Summer Fair is July 18-22. Entry deadline for fair is **June 29**, late entries will be accepted with a late fee from June 30 to July 9th. **ABSOLUTELY NO ENTRIES AFTER JULY 9TH, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**